Drilling in Jammu and Kashmir

5335. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Srunsar area of Jammu & Kashmir where the drilling was taken up, the date of launching and abandoning of the projects alongwith expenditure as also reasons for doing so; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for resuming the drilling at the old site or new one in Jammu area; if so, when the task will be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Drilling at Surinsar in Jammu had started initially on 14.3.70 when the first well Surinsar-I was projected to 6000 mtrs. but, had to be abandoned at the depth of 3665 mtrs. on 21.3.73 due to severe downhole problems. The second well for drilling at well Surinsar-2 projected to 7000 mtrs. commenced on 18.5.87. This super deep well also had to be abandoned at the depth of 5448 mtrs. on 29.8.89 prematurely, due to severe downhole problems.

Both the wells did not indicate any hydrocarbon presence.

Subsequently all the geological, geophysical data were evaluated including the date from the two drilled wells. On the basis of this evaluation, prospectivity of the area was rated low. Accordingly, it was decided to defer further drilling in Jammu area.

The exploratory drilling cost of Surinsar area (J&K) as per books of accounts is given below :

(Rs. in crores)

	Expenditure	Depreciation	Total
Surinsar-I	3.74	1.17	4.91
Surinsar-II	27.43	18.59	46.02
Total	31.17	19.76	50.93

(b) No Sir. At present there is no proposal to drill a well in Jammu area.

Roads in Jammu and Kashmir

5336. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that road connecting four districts viz. Jammu, Rajouri, Poonch and Kathva with Pakistan border is not traffic worthy;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the State Government has not been able to maintain this road properly;

(d) whether Government propose to handover the maintenance of this road to border road organistaion;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (f) The CPWD do not maintain any roads in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The following roads are maintained by the Border Roads Organisation and they are traffic worthy :

(i) Jammu-Akhnoor-Sunderbani-Naushera-Rajouri,

(ii) Jammu-Domel-Katra-Riasi-Pouni-Siar-Kaakot-Rajouri,

(iii) Rajouri-Bhimbergali-Surankot-Poonch,

(iv) Rajouri-Thanamandi-Dera-Ki-Gali-Surankot-Poonch.

As regards Jammu-Kathva road, it is being maintained by the State PWD of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir. Information regarding the condition of this road has been called for from the State Government which is still awaited.

Rajouri and Poonch as Scheduled Tribe Areas

5337. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jammu and Kashmir State Government has recommended to the Government of India for declaring Rajouri and Poonch Districts as Scheduled Tribe Areas;

(b) if so, when does the Government intend to accept this justified recommendation of J & K State Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Mughal Road

5338. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :